My Portfolio: [**http://kristinaspilotstudies.weebly.com**](http://kristinaspilotstudies.weebly.com/)

Yoyoyo its that time of the year again! Let’s dive straight in to Science! I am addressing the Structure and Function standard this quarter. I have created a few different projects for the Cell Structure and Function, and the Molecules, Food and Body performance indicators. I started off the quarter by creating a new learning plan. I created it for just this quarter, which was a really useful format for me because it made it more concise and realistic. Something new that also worked for me was to find a staple resource for each performance indicator. I found a Khan Academy lesson for each one, and I used that along with the language of the performance indicator to guide my final projects. This worked really well for me, the Khan Academy lessons give me a really solid baseline level of knowledge to build off of. The lessons are comprised of sets of readings and videos, as well as mini-quizzes. I started with Cell Structure and Function. I revised last quarter’s *Neurons 4 Dumees* slideshow, and created and revised a cell anatomy poster. I also created a slideshow about how each macromolecule gets absorbed through the GI tract on a cellular level. (PS I google things a lot for clarification and also talk to peers so I do technically use more than one resource :))

On to English! I am addressing the standards for Expressive Writing, Expository and Research Writing, Reading, Language, and Speaking and Listening. Firstly I made a new learning plan, the most exciting addition being much more clarity because THERE ARE FINALLY STANDARDS FOR THE ENGLISH PORTFOLIO! For portfolio related stuff I did this quarter, I revised my analytic essay, *The Universe is a Green Dragon,* I wrote and performed a speech,I performed poetry I wrote, and I wrote a research paper about Oneness. For the Oneness paper I read several different books and watched a documentary series, peep my bibliography for them! There’s also a few new poems on my blog, as well as some paper ones. I have done the best I’ve ever done on my blog this quarter! My justification of this statement is that I documented more thoroughly than I ever have, I wrote about what I did essentially every week, and most of the time they were on time. ALSO SUPER EXCITINGLY I have found super challenging reading for myself! It is the reading for my Social Ecology class, and boy I will tell you all it has been a long time since my brain hurt from lack of reading comprehension! A little backstory, reading has always been my thing. Finding reading that challenges me, historically speaking, felt impossible. But now I’m doing it!

The Social Studies standards I’m addressing are Culture, Economics, Civic Literacy, and History. I have done this exclusively through COMPLETING (!!!) the Social Ecology class I am taking. When I write exclusively, don’t worry, I still have been doing way too large amounts of tangent learning that technically are included in these standards but aren’t a project or anything and I’m FINALLY doing legitimate projects so I don’t feel the need to document every tangent I’ve gone on this quarter (in my narrative, that is, in my blog though there’s probably at least ¼ of my tangents documented). As I touched on last paragraph, the Social Ecology class is the most rigorous work I have done in Pilot and I’m super psyched about it. It consists of eight units, each being a few different readings and video lectures. I have also written a paper showing how Social Ecology addresses each of the standards. I have written a reflective blog post for two of the units and I’m going to do it next quarter for the rest of them. This timing is perfect because I will then be using that freshly stirred-up info in my brain to create a lil pamphlet about Social Ecology! I also made a new learning plan for Social Studies, and possibly the most exciting thing I’ve done in my life was not on there :) As a part of what ended up being the largest global climate mobilization in history (!!!) I organized a walk-out from U-32 to the State house to protest climate change inaction. This involved making a flyer, putting the flyers everywhere, getting other people to put flyers everywhere, being interviewed, collaborating with other schools, getting involved with Green Team, advertising on social media, getting in an almost-first amendment battle with the admin, doing research and much more. I have never planned a walkout before or performed a speech so it was a super valuable experience. I GOT LIKE 100 PEOPLE TO COME!!! And once we got to the state house after the speeches winded down I ended up finessing into a group of students that was meeting with the Speaker of the House so that was uber cool. Experiencing the dynamic between protester and policy maker was interesting, as well as any policy-maker dynamic because that lingo is pretty unknown to me but pretty important! As a result of these two main projects, I feel confident in what I want for this world, and not that I have an idea of everything to do to get there, but as super solid idea for starting and a framework for organizing dissent I didn’t have before (also getting a crowd hyped!). (PS to Amy. I don’t think I’ve ever done so much organized project work in a quarter, simultaneously I don’t think I’ve ever been so concise in my narrative ((I have so much yay this quarter))

I think if the concepts of rigor and holistic learning skills were to be graphed out for all of my Pilot quarters, the biggest jump of improvement would have occurred in this quarter. My body and mind feel more spatial, and because they can stretch out like that, they are more calm. My mind doesn’t feel the need to create long long narratives of justification of suffering like she used to. My body appreciates this in a funny way. It’s like eating spicy food, or working out. It’s kinda painful in this way, but that same pain is really why you do it. So yeah, my spirit is hella sore from all this stretching, but I wouldn’t have it any other way. This has helped me immensely in all of these areas. My learning plans and therefore also my learning are more direct and practical than I have ever made them. It also feels more holistic because my learning is less segmented when I am honest about what I need to learn for school. In terms of rigour the Social Ecology class is my best example of that, and additionally the fact that I have written two expository pieces of writing cuz’ I don’t think I’ve ever done that for Pilot! Moving forward it will be key for me to keep moving and not fall into stagnancy.

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